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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, UCF 05, PC 04, RSR 01, CCO 00, E 15, INT 06,
COM 08, SCS 04, AID 28, FBO 01, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NIC 01,
NSC 10, O 02, OC 06, OPR 02, P 03, PER 02, RSC 01, PRS 01, SCA 01, SS 20,
SY 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, TRSY 11,
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O P 011345Z SEP 69 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4572
INFO AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
CINCUSAFE
CINCEUR
COMSIXTHFLT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 12 JUL 1982
RDS[ ]or XDS[ ]EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS [ ]
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RELEASE DENIED[ ]
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 2100

SUBJ: SITREP 1400, SEPTEMBER 1

1. CROWN PRINCE IN RADIO SPEECH 1340 SEPTEMBER 1 RENOUNCED ALL POWERS AND PREROGATIVES AS DEPUTY TO KING, ANNOUNCED HIS SUPPORT FOR NEW REGIME AND CALLED ON ALL LIBYANS TO DESIST FROM ANY OPPOSITION TO NEW GROUP.

(1)

2. "REPUBLIC LIBYA RADIO" HAS BEGUN BROADCASTING TELEGRAMS OF CONGRATULATIONS AND SUPPORT FROM VARIETY OF UNKNOWN CIVILIANS--INDIVIDUALS, TRIBES, AND OTHER GROUPS (E.G., TEACHERS) LOCATED IN BOTH TRIPOLI AND BENGHAZI. NOTEWORTHY THAT THERE HAVE SO FAR BEEN NO

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TELEGRAPHIC PLEDGES LOYALTY FROM EITHER PROMINENT CIVILIANS (EITHER GOVERNMENTAL OR PRIVATE) OR FROM COMMANDERS OTHER MILITARY UNITS. ARMY COUNCIL HAS ANNOUNCED CLOSURE OF GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPERS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

3. STREETS OF TRIPOLI ARE STILL RIGIDLY CONTROLLED BY GROUPS SOLDIERS IN TWOS AND THREES POSTED IN EVERY BLOCK. SOME LIBYAN PEDESTRIANS ARE BEING PERMITTED TO MOVE ABOUT APPARENTLY TO BAKERIES AND OTHER FOOD SHOPS. VERY INFREQUENT AUTOMOBILE IS WAVED THROUGH EITHER UPON VISUAL RECOGNITION OR AFTER BRIEF CONSULTATION BETWEEN DRIVER AND SOLDIERS. AS YET NO ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE PROVIDE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WITH CURFEW PASSES. SKELETON STAFF OPERATING WITHIN EMBASSY OFFICES TRIPOLI AND BENGHAZI. OTHER MEMBERS OF STAFF, INCLUDING LOCALS WHO KEEPING IN TOUCH VIA TELEPHONE, UNABLE TO REACH EMBASSY OWING TO CURFEW. OIC/BAYDA IS AT HIS RESIDENCE, UNABLE TO LEAVE IN ABSENCE REQUIRED LOCAL AUTHORIZATION. COMMUNICATORS, HOWEVER, ARE IN EMBASSY OFFICE.

4. RANDOM FIRING CONTINUES IN DOWNTOWN TRIPOLI. WHILE SOME IS CLEARLY EXHUBERANT SHOOTING INTO AIR, SOME SOUNDS AS IT IT MIGHT BE COMING FROM FIRE FIGHTS. RECENT RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT CONDEMS IRRESPONSIBLE TRIGGER HAPPY INDIVIDUALS AND PROMISING SEVERE PUNISHMENT.

5. RE PETROLEUM, GOL OFFICIALS AT OIL TERMINALS EARLY THIS MORNING INITIALLY INTERPRETED REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL'S CLOSURE OF ALL PORTS AS INCLUDING OIL PORTS. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN COMPANY AND GOL REPS AT TERMINALS AND AFTER EMBASSY INQUIRED ABOUT SITUATION WITH ASST. U/S PETROLEUM MINISTRY IBLAAWI, WHO IN TURN CONTACTED REP OF COUNCIL, IT WAS DECIDED OIL LOADINGS SHOULD CONTINUE. BREGA (ESSO), ESSIDER (OASIS), ZWEITINA (OCCIDENTAL) AND TOBRUK (BP/BUNKER HUNT) ARE ALL PRESENTLY LOADING; MOBIL (RAS LANUF) EXPERIENCING SOME PROBLEMS WITH CLEARANCE CUSTOMS DOCUMENTS. CONFUSION STEMMED MAINLY FROM LACK OF COORDINATION BETWEEN COUNCIL AND LOCAL GOL TERMINAL OFFICIALS, WHO WERE LEFT TO ACT ON OWN.

6. AMERICAN AND OTHER FOREIGN RESIDENTS TRIPOLI APPEAR

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TO BE IN NO RPT NO DANGER AT MOMENT. TOGETHER WITH ENTIRE LIBYAN POPULATION THEY ARE CONFINED TO THEIR HOMES, AND SOFAR AS EMBASSY CAN DETERMINE AT THIS POINT WILL CONTINUE BE SAFE SO LONG AS THEY STAY OFF STREETS. WE HAVE UTILIZED WARDEN AND TELPHONE SYSTEMS TO PASS WORD ALONG.

7. SITUATION REMAINS CALM AT WHEELUS WITH WHICH WE ARE IN CONTACT BY TELEPHONE. CO/WHEELUS STATES LOCAL WORK FORCE DEPARTED SHORTLY AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURFEW. SECURITY POLICE STILL ON DUTY AT ENTRANCES TO BASE BUT LIBYAN OFFICER IN CHARGE HAS HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS EITHER FORM HIS SUPERIORS OR FROM ARMY. CO/WHEELUS IS ARRANGING PHASED DEPARTURE FROM BASE OF USAF AIRCRAFT. TWO RLAF PLANES REQUESTED FLIGHT CLEARANCE FROM WHEELUS AT MID-MORNING WHICH WAS GRANTED. SUBSEQUENTLY, TWO RLAF F-5'S FLEW LOW OVER TRIPOLI.
GP-4.
BLAKE

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